



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services
c/o TAMU-CC, Campus Box 338
6300 Ocean Drive
Corpus Christi, Texas 78412

July 5, 2012

Mark Pattillo
Regulatory Branch, CESWG-PE-RCC
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
5151 Flynn Parkway, Suite 306
Corpus Christi, TX 78411

Dear Mr. Pattillo:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed an Interagency Coordination Notice for Extension of Time (ICN), dated June 22, 2012, for Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Permit Application SWG-1997-01485. The applicant, Alamo Concrete Products, Ltd., has requested authorization to perform maintenance dredging and disposal previously authorized under Galveston District Permit 12779(04). The project site is located adjacent to the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) on Redfish Bay at the end of Sunray Road, Ingleside, San Patricio County, Texas.

This report was prepared under the authority of and in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.). It represents the coordinated views of the Department of the Interior. The recommendations in this report have been coordinated with representatives of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

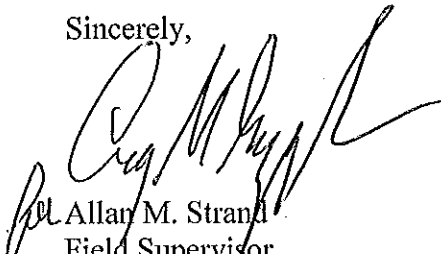
The applicant proposes to extend the time to conduct maintenance dredging of their existing marine facility for 10 years. No changes are proposed for the dredging depths, and material would be placed into a previously approved upland, contained disposal area on the applicant's property.

The marine facility area is adjacent to wetlands extending from the Falcon Refinery Superfund site to the southwest. The presence of the superfund remediation site has not previously been identified during the coordination of Permit SWG-1997-01485, or subsequent authorized extensions of time, such as the one proposed in this ICN. Information provided by TPWD in their response letter for this permit application raises questions that, in the opinion of the Service, merit serious consideration. The Service recommends that the USACE and/or the applicant confer with the Falcon Refinery Superfund Site Remedial Project Manager, Mr. Rafael Casanova [EPA, Region VI (214/665-7437)], to obtain updated information regarding the superfund site with the goal of ensuring that actions taken for the Falcon Refinery site have not, and will not, result in contamination of the proposed maintenance dredging project, or future work at the applicant's site.

In addition, according to aerial imagery, it appears that the containment levees for the previously authorized upland disposal area may be degraded or absent. The Service is concerned that the placement of maintenance dredge material without first refurbishing the containment levees will result in the flow of dredge material out onto wetland and sand flats located west of the applicant's project site. Therefore the Service recommends that as a condition of the authorization of the permit application, the applicant should be required to refurbish or rebuild containment levees around the dredge material placement site prior to beginning maintenance dredging in the channel.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Pat Clements at 361-994-9005.

Sincerely,



Allan M. Strand
Field Supervisor

cc:

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